

Development of child and maternal mortality in the context of the Millennium Development Goals

Abstract

The aim of this thesis is to evaluate the development of the level of child and maternal mortality in Zambia and Zimbabwe and compare this development with the Millennium Development Goals. The analysis is performed by calculating infant mortality rate, under-5 mortality rate and maternal mortality ratio from DHS and then these values are compared with results of other organizations, such as the UN. The level of health care, structure of causes of deaths and historical and political situation with emphasis on the state's population are also described. Based on the resulting values we can conclude that none of the analyzed countries does meet the selected targets. The level of child and maternal mortality was improved in Zambia. On the other hand, in Zimbabwe values fluctuate and there was also an increase in the level of child mortality.

Keywords: infant mortality, child mortality, maternal mortality, health care, surveys, Millennium Development Goals, MDGs, Zimbabwe, Zambia